

REESE ET AL. — 10/656,002
Attorney Docket: 044182-0305880

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 4, delete the whole paragraph starting in line 8 and replace it with the following new paragraph:

~~FIG. 1 is a~~ FIGs. 1A and 1B are simplified block diagram diagrams illustrating the precision travel range of a stage relative to the size of a substrate.

Page 4, delete the whole paragraph starting in line 14 and replace it with the following new paragraph:

~~FIG. 4 is a~~ FIGs. 4A, 4B and 4C are simplified perspective diagram diagrams illustrating various embodiments of a securing mechanism.

Page 4, beginning at line 16, insert the following new paragraph:

FIG. 5 is a simplified perspective diagram illustrating one embodiment of a substrate holder adapted for two dimensional translation.

Page 4, delete the whole paragraph starting in line 18 and replace it with the following new paragraph:

~~FIG. 1 is a~~ FIGs. 1A and 1B are simplified block diagram diagrams illustrating the precision travel range of a stage relative to the size of a substrate. In the exemplary ~~FIG. 1~~ FIGs. 1A and 1B representation, rectangular shapes 10 generally correspond to a plan, or top, view of a substrate such as, for example, a 1" X 3" microscope slide. Hashed square shapes 20 generally represent the travel range of a high-precision stage (not depicted in ~~FIG. 1~~ FIGs. 1A and 1B). In a typical system, precision stage travel range 20 may be appreciably less than the overall substrate area 10. Moving the substrate from position A to position E relative to the stage as depicted in ~~FIG. 1~~ FIGs. 1A and 1B enables the various areas A-E on the substrate that can be observed with high resolution to be selectively altered in accordance with system requirements. In accordance with some embodiments employing an indexing system as set forth herein, it is possible to switch or toggle easily between one or more selected substrate regions A-E, for example, and to return to a given or selected area of interest.

REESE ET AL. - 10/656,002

Attorney Docket: 044182-0305880

Page 5, delete the whole paragraph starting in line 1 and replace it with the following new paragraph:

~~On the left side of the illustration of FIG. 1~~ In FIG. 1A, reference numeral 21 depicts the individual areas A-E of the overall substrate area 10 which are viewable when the substrate is located (relative to a movable stage substantially as set forth in detail below) in accordance with the respective positions A through E ~~on the right side of FIG. 1~~ in FIG 1B. Whereas ~~FIG. 1 indicates~~ FIGs. 1A and 1B indicate that each area A-E precisely abuts its neighboring area or areas, it will be appreciated that a repeatable substrate holder configured and operative as set forth herein may enable or allow areas A-E to overlap to a desired degree; for example, portions of area B, portions of area D, or both, may be viewable when the substrate is positioned to align area C within the precision travel range 20 of the stage.

Page 5, delete the whole paragraph starting in line 24 and replace it with the following new paragraph:

It will be appreciated that the substrate may be embodied in a standard or proprietary laboratory slide such as illustrated in ~~FIG. 1~~ FIGs. 1A and 1B, for example, and may be held firmly and reproducibly, *i.e.*, secured in a predictable location with respect to holder 100 in general, and with respect to window 190 in particular. Selectively moving movable portion 120 may enable a selected area (such as A-E in ~~FIG. 1~~ FIGs. 1A and 1B, for example) to be positioned within the precision travel range 20 of the stage as set forth above with reference to ~~FIG. 1~~ FIGs. 1A and 1B.

Page 6, delete the whole paragraph starting in line 14 and replace it with the following new paragraph:

~~FIG. 4 is a~~ FIGs. 4A, 4B and 4C are simplified perspective diagram diagrams illustrating various embodiments of a securing mechanism. It will be appreciated that some structural elements of the illustrated securing mechanism arrangements have been omitted from ~~FIG. 4~~ FIGs. 4A, 4B and 4C for clarity. The 410 and 420 arrangements may generally employ a biasing element 411 to cause the substrate to abut one or more structures 412 in a secure and predictable manner as described above. In the 410 embodiment, for example, a unitary structure 412 may be fixedly attached to movable portion while a biasing element 411 may be operative to bear against one portion or edge of the substrate, biasing substrate

REESE ET AL. -- 10/656,002

Attorney Docket: 044182-0305880

against structure 412. In this instance, biasing element 411 may be spring-loaded, for example, or manually manipulated and locked or otherwise secured (such as with a set screw, for example) in a desired position to provide necessary or suitable biasing force.

Page 7, delete the whole paragraph starting in line 6 and replace it with the following new paragraph:

In the embodiment designated by reference numeral 430, securing structures 412 may generally be implemented as posts or other suitably sized protrusions or projections dimensioned to engage holes or bores 439 disposed at appropriate locations in a proprietary or modified substrate. ~~FIG. 4 is~~ FIGs. 4A, 4B and 4C are not intended to depict all possible variations for a securing mechanism; those of skill in the art will recognize that other alternatives within the scope and contemplation of the present disclosure may have utility in various applications or system implementations.

Page 9, delete the whole paragraph starting in line 10 and replace it with the following new paragraph:

While manual activation of the actuator mechanism and indexing system has been described, it will be appreciated that motorized or automated movement of movable portion 120 relative to fixed portion 110 may readily be achieved through addition of one or more electric motors 160, 161 and 162, for example, or other electromechanical elements. In some embodiments, for instance, an electric motor 160, 161 and 162 under control of a computer system or other microprocessor or microcontroller may activate the actuator mechanism for precise guidance and control of translation of movable portion 120.

Page 9, delete the whole paragraph starting in line 18 and replace it with the following new paragraph:

As is apparent from examination of FIG. 2, guide pins 118 or other suitable structures may constrain movable portion 120 such that motion along one axis may be restricted. Alternatively, as depicted in Fig. 5, some embodiments may accommodate two dimensional travel for movable portion 120 relative to fixed portion 110, such as through implementation of one or more additional gear mechanisms and suitable tracks, rails, guides, and interoperable structures such as are generally known in the art.

REESE ET AL. - 10/656,002
Attorney Docket: 044182-0305880

Page 9, delete the whole paragraph starting in line 24 and replace it with the following new paragraph:

In some embodiments, the position of movable portion 120 may be indexed, for example, with an index reference or other indicia 150. Accordingly, each particular area A-E of the substrate may be referenced by or otherwise associated with one or more indicia 150 on holder 100. When movable portion 120 is translated such that a particular indicum or other identifier is aligned with a pointer or other cooperating structure, the associated substrate area A-E may be located within the precision travel range 20 of the stage as set forth above with reference to ~~FIG. 1~~ FIGs. 1A and 1B.